→ 1) A-AS - Bowdler for The Ambassador 6/a
2) ~~Robert to A - Mr. Burns~~

OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

UNCLASSIFIED

American Embassy,
London, England,
February 28, 1968.

Dear Mr. Manning:

The attached editorial from the Seattle Post Intelligencer is based on such a gross distortion of fact that I have felt moved to write a letter to the editor, which I enclose for your consideration.

If you approve the forwarding of this letter to the Post Intelligencer but feel that the letter should be amplified, or signed by a Department official, let this by all means be done.

I am sending a copy of this letter, together with enclosures, to Bill Crockett in A and to Bill Tyler and Bob Francis in EUR.

Lewis Jones, who is presently Charge d'Affaires, has seen this letter prior to dispatch.

Sincerely,

Findley Burns, Jr.
Counselor for Administration

Enclosures.

The Honorable
Robert J. Manning,
Assistant Secretary for
Public Affairs,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY KEW DATE 6-11-81
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4/6

American Embassy,
24/31 Grosvenor Square,
London, W. 1, England,
February 23, 1953.

The Editor,
Seattle Post Intelligencer,
Seattle, Washington.

Sir:

I have just seen your editorial entitled "Swollen Rolls" which appeared in the Post Intelligencer about two weeks ago.

In your editorial you state that there are 4,000 Americans on the payroll of the American Embassy in London.

The fact is there are 316 Americans assigned to the Embassy in London. Of this number, 130 are employees of the Department of State, 12 are Marine Security Guards, 15 are employees of the United States Information Agency, and 108 are employees of the Department of Defense (assigned principally to the offices of the Army, Navy, and Air Attaches). The remaining 51 Americans are employees of such U.S. Government departments and agencies as Agriculture, Commerce, Treasury, AEC, Federal Aviation Administration, etc.

I do not know off hand exactly how many American employees there are at the American Embassies in Rome and Paris, but I do know that the figures you cite on your editorial are as grossly exaggerated as the figure you give for the American Embassy in London.

You state in your editorial: "Are we so much bigger and so much more important than our friends the French and the British that we require such overpowering representation abroad?"

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It might interest your readers to know that whereas there are 316 Americans assigned to the American Embassy in London, there were, as of last December, 438 British nationals assigned to the British Embassy in Washington.

Very truly yours,

Findley Burns, Jr.
Counselor for Administration

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